

**CTLA4-IMMUNOGLOBULIN FUSION PROTEINS HAVING MODIFIED
EFFECTOR FUNCTIONS AND USES THEREFOR**

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Abstract

CTLA4-immunoglobulin fusion proteins having modified immunoglobulin constant region-mediated effector functions, and nucleic acids encoding the fusion proteins, are described. The CTLA4-immunoglobulin fusion proteins comprise two components: a first
10 peptide having a CTLA4 activity and a second peptide comprising an immunoglobulin constant region which is modified to reduce at least one constant region-mediated biological effector function relative to a CTLA4-IgG1 fusion protein. The nucleic acids of the invention can be integrated into various expression vectors, which in turn can direct the synthesis of the corresponding proteins in a variety of hosts, particularly eukaryotic cells. The CTLA4-
15 immunoglobulin fusion proteins described herein can be administered to a subject to inhibit an interaction between a CTLA4 ligand (e.g., B7-1 and/or B7-2) on an antigen presenting cell and a receptor for the CTLA4 ligand (e.g., CD28 and/or CTLA4) on the surface of T cells to thereby suppress an immune response in the subject, for example to inhibit transplantation rejection, graft versus host disease or autoimmune responses.

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